



County of Los Angeles  
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020  
(213) 351-5602

PATRICIA S. PLOEHN, LCSW  
Director

April 12, 2007

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chair  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

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From:   
Patricia S. Ploehn, LCSW  
Director

**JANUARY 9, 2007 ANTONOVICH MOTION: LEGISLATION FOR EMANCIPATED FOSTER YOUTH**

On January 9, 2007, in response to a motion by Supervisor Antonovich, the Board directed the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Probation and the Chief Administrative Office to work with the State legislative delegation, the County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) and the California Youth Connection, to sponsor a much needed legislation in the 2007-08 State Legislative Session to provide enhanced services and financial support to emancipated foster youth between the ages of 18 and 21 years.

On February 22, 2007, AB 713 was introduced in the State Assembly by Assembly Members Maze and Bass. The intent of this bill is to enact legislation that would sufficiently fund programs that provide financial support and an array of enhanced services to accommodate the individual needs of youth who are emancipating from the foster care system.

The Department has established a workgroup that will convene on April 19, 2007, to determine strategies for the best way to address the financial needs and supportive services for our emancipating foster youth. Workgroup members include representatives from CWDA, Assembly Budget and Human Services Committees, authors' offices, child advocacy organizations, Board of Supervisors and DCFS.

Given the anticipated shortfall in this year's State budget, the likelihood of AB 713 passing through the Legislature and being signed into law this year is very unlikely. DCFS has consulted with our Sacramento lobbyists, CWDA, as well as the authors of the bill, and all have concurred that AB 713 will be most effective as a two-year bill.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Mitch Mason, Division Chief, Governmental Relations at (213) 351-5746.

PSP:MHM:wj

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*